

REMARKS

Claims 1-5 and 7-15 are pending in the application. Claims 2, 3, and 7-14 were withdrawn from consideration as being directed to non-elected subject matter. Claims 1 and 5 have been amended, and new claim 15 is added by the present amendment. The amendments and added claim are fully supported by the application as originally filed (see, e.g., specification at page 16, third full paragraph; page 20, third paragraph to page 21, third paragraph; page 27, second paragraph to page 28, second paragraph; and FIGS. 1, 4(a), and 11(a)).

As amended, independent claim 1 recites a display device including a liquid crystal panel having a plurality of pixels, and an illuminating unit for illuminating the liquid crystal panel using a light guiding plate, in which the illuminating unit includes light path changing means, at least one of which is brought into contact with the light guiding plate to illuminate the liquid crystal panel. As recited in independent claim 1, a number of the light path changing means is **smaller** than a number of pixels of the liquid crystal panel. According to the claimed invention, an unexpected effect of restraining motion blur of a liquid crystal display is achieved.

Claims 1, 4, and 5 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication US 2002/0031294 to Takeda et al. ("Takeda") in view of U.S. Patent 7,058,252 to Woodgate et al. ("Woodgate"). Claim 6 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takeda in view of Woodgate, and further in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication US 2003/0142905 to Yonekubo and U.S. Patent Application Publication US 2002/0154256 to Gotoh et al. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Regarding the rejection of independent claim 1 over the proposed combination of Takeda in view of Woodgate, the proposed combination does not teach or suggest a display device including an illuminating unit for illuminating a liquid crystal panel using a light guiding plate, where the illuminating unit includes light path changing means, at least one of which is brought into contact with the light guiding plate to illuminate the liquid crystal panel, or where a number of the light path changing means is **smaller** than a number of pixels of the liquid crystal panel.

On page 3, last paragraph of the Office Action of 01/22/2008, FIG. 8 of Takeda and paragraphs 0207 and 0214 were cited allegedly for disclosing the use of Takeda's invention with a liquid crystal panel.

Referring to FIG. 8 of Takeda, a projection-type display is disclosed, which utilizes a projector 6. In particular, light from a light source 80 is brought into a prism and led onto a switching device (see, e.g., paragraph 0112 of Takeda). There is no teaching or suggestion of the use of a liquid crystal panel.

Further, paragraphs 0207 and 0214 of Takeda indicate that the optical switching device disclosed in Takeda may be used in conjunction with "a liquid crystal." In other words, according to these paragraphs of Takeda, the optical switching device may substitute for conventional optical switching devices. There is no teaching or suggestion in Takeda of the Applicants' claimed light path changing means which is used to illuminate a liquid crystal panel.

In particular, Takeda does not teach or suggest a display device including an illuminating unit for illuminating a liquid crystal panel, where at least a light changing means is brought into contact with a light guiding plate to illuminate the liquid crystal panel, or where a number of the light path changing means is **smaller** than a number of pixels of the liquid crystal panel.

It is believed the application is in condition for immediate allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

/Steven M. Jensen/

Steven M. Jensen
(Reg. No. 42,693)
Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge
P.O. Box 55874
Boston, MA 02205

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Phone: (617) 239-0100

Customer No. 21874